



# The Montgomery County RECYCLETTER

November/December 2000

Number 54

## *Your Trash is Their Treasure*

The Montgomery County Transfer Station is the location where the majority of the County's waste is taken for disposal. On any given day, over 500 vehicles cross the scales of this facility to dispose of trash or Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) as we say in the business. This would also include trucks bringing in yard waste, brush and scrap metal to recycle. The operating permit established by the State of Maryland, Department of the Environment, as well as the County hauler agreements, establish complex disposal requirements. This is where the Inspection Program Team comes into place. The team consists of three members: Carl Hildebrand, Program Specialist; Andy Cubley, inspector for Maryland Environmental Service, and Bob Willson, Section Chief.

You never know what the day will bring. One day a truck came into the station to dump its load and set off the radiation detector. Of course, the load can't be dumped until the source is found and removed. Sometimes the source of the radiation turns out to be the driver of the vehicle, who has recently undergone a

medical procedure, which shows how sensitive the detection equipment is. The inspection program varies from going through randomly selected loads to general visual observations, or to helping customers find items that they inadvertently threw away. Occasionally, citizens will call the transfer station requesting to search the trash load. If they are able to identify and intercept the truck before it has been through the transfer station the trash load is isolated in a special area of the tipping floor so the citizen can search the load safely. We'll issue the required safety apparel to the person, such as a hard hat, eye and ear protection and gloves. The success rate in finding lost items has varied. In one case, a gentleman was searching for a mere envelope on which he had scribbled a promising stock tip. Imagine staring at 2-3 tons of garbage and knowing "it's in there somewhere." He found it! A woman who lost a wooden box full of family mementos wasn't so lucky. They surmise that it was crushed and mangled beyond recognition and the pieces so thoroughly mixed in the trash that nothing could be identified. In

any regard, we always strive to be as accommodating as possible in assisting individuals who have mistakenly thrown away items of importance.

Inspecting 8 to 12 tons of garbage daily is no easy task, and as one would expect, at times requires a strong stomach. One day there was a couple of long narrow metal boxes about 18" deep that caught an employee's attention. Upon investigation the labeling reflected that they came from a funeral home. By luck of the draw Carl had the honor of opening the boxes, which he did very gingerly. Luckily, they were empty! Being part of the team is interesting and makes working at the Transfer Station a fun place to work, especially when you can help a customer find a thrown out treasure.

Each year approximately 150,000 different vehicles dispose of roughly 600,000 tons of material. The Inspection Program Team oversees this process and plays a vital role in ensuring proper waste disposal and is an asset to the County.

--Bob Willson, Carl Hildebrand &

Theresa Souders

## *America Recycles Day*

Montgomery County will celebrate the 4th Annual America Recycles Day on Sunday, November 19, 2000, at the Recycling Center. It's a wonderful and rare opportunity for people to tour the Center on a weekend day. We expect about 1,000 visitors to attend.

In welcoming these visitors to the Recycling Center, positions for the day will include: greeting visitors, explaining how the sorting machine works, running the elevator for visitors with disabilities, explaining composting, selling compost bins, demonstrating papermaking, helping with parking and traffic control, staffing the information table, distributing blue bins, and playing Digger the Worm. This is the busiest day of the year for the MR/C Volunteer Program, and up to 30 volunteers are needed to join Solid Waste Service staff to make this event a success. Whether you are an experienced volunteer or are new to our program, we've got a spot for you! Spend the day with us, or a few hours, as your schedule allows.

The event runs from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Volunteers should plan to arrive by 9:00 a.m. Lunch is provided. To sign up, contact us at 301-840-2852 or [mrc@windsor.com](mailto:mrc@windsor.com).

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## News Brief



### Reuse Opportunity

Do you have used flowerpots you don't need and can't use but don't want to throw away? Well, Brenda Ford with the Metropolitan Women's Business Association can use them in a greenhouse at Montgomery College. Her Volunteer Community Outreach Project will benefit disabled and retired citizens, as well as at-home parents who will work a couple of days a week in the greenhouse. 3, 6, 8, 10, and even some 12 and 14-inch plastic flowerpots are needed. Since most flowerpots are already made of recycled plastic and can't be recycled again, reuse is the best option to keep these items out of the waste stream.

Ms. Ford's program has also received a donation of a greenhouse courtesy of the University of Maryland. A donation of land loaned for their use is especially needed.

Won't you help? Clean plastic flowerpots can be brought to our office for storage, and then we'll deliver them to Ms. Ford. Offers to help relocate their greenhouse can be called to our office and we will contact Ms. Ford. We are located at the Montgomery County Transfer Station on Rt. 355 (Frederick Road) and Shady Grove Road in Derwood, and office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Contact us at 301-840-2852, or <mrc@windsor.com>.



The Taylor Science Materials Center, part of the Montgomery County Public School system, needs to gather approximately 4000 CDs for a future project. Any Compact Disc that is of no further use to you will meet our needs. Promotional CDs that AOL and other internet carriers send in the mail will also fit the bill.

Your CDs should be sent or taken to The Taylor Science Materials Center: Thomas DuMars, Director, Taylor Science Materials Center, 19501 White Ground Road, Boyds, Maryland 20841. Please contact the Center at 301-353-0866 or 301-353-0870 (Fax) if you have any questions.



### Toter Pilot Program

An experiment in mixed paper recycling has begun in the Tilden Woods area of Rockville. One hundred and twenty toters have been distributed to houses in the neighborhood. A toter is a 68 gallon, large blue plastic can on wheels with a lid to keep the contents dry. One advantage to toters is that small boxes can go inside. Because a compactor truck picks them up, even large boxes can go to the curb without being flattened. It will take a few weeks to determine just how much more the area is recycling with the toters, but the outlook is very optimistic.

Part of a neighborhood in Silver Spring received toters in September. Residents were overwhelmingly positive about using the toters and eager to begin the pilot program.

A third neighborhood, in the Chevy Chase View section of Kensington, was included in October. The pilot programs will run for six months.

We hope that by making it even easier to recycle paper that there will be an increase in recycling in every household and that some households that don't recycle paper will start doing so.

We will keep you posted as to the success of this program.

## Mission Statement

The Montgomery County Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program, a part of the Department of Public Works and Transportation, Division of Solid Waste Services, encourages environmental stewardship through its public outreach on waste prevention, reuse and recycling. Volunteers provide County residents with practical solutions to their waste-related concerns. In educating themselves and others, MR/C volunteers stimulate thoughtful and effective action towards sound environmental practices which protect our shared environment and help the County achieve its goal of 50% recycling.

**Jim Welch,  
Editor-in-Chief**

**Diane Reinke,  
Editor**

**Mickey O'Bradovich,  
Layout**

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## A Note to You



The holidays are approaching. Soon the catalogs will fill the mailbox, familiar songs will be heard again, and favorite decorations will make their annual appearance. As I look back at my own excessive purchasing and overspending at this time of year, I am reminded that the spirit of Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza is not reflected in piles of wrapped packages, toys so numerous they never get played with, and credit card bills that squeeze finances well into the new year. I am making a commitment to remember reuse and buy only those presents that have a life beyond the holidays. I intend to reduce the number of gifts I buy and concentrate on quality instead of quantity. And, of course, I will recycle all of the gift-wrap that is paper and not buy the fancy foil paper that does not recycle. If I order from a catalog I will request that I not be put on mailing lists that will result in even more catalogs coming next year. I will take all the styrofoam peanuts to a mailing store, and reuse or recycle all boxes that I can. The whole idea here is to not lose control in a holiday frenzy that compromises my belief that "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" are

words worthy of a carol.

Happy Holidays!

## HHW

Due to space constraints we are not printing another Household Hazardous Waste article this issue. Two more, however are planned for the new year. For one of them I wish to discuss laundry and dry cleaning. This HHW concern touches all of us. Unless you wash your clothes by beating them against rocks in the river, you probably use detergents, bleaches, stain removers and/or the services of dry cleaners. In order to compose a very good article on this very complicated subject, I would appreciate input from our readers. How do you cut down on the amount of laundry products you use? Have you ever tried the bleach alternatives? How about the oxygen-based cleaners? And what's up with those ionizing alternatives? Has anybody out there ever tried the home dry cleaning products? Please respond so that we all can benefit from our common experience.

Thanks, Jim

## A History of Recycling in Montgomery County

The recycling program came about to preserve our landfill space. Also, citizens wanted recycling, and the State of Maryland mandated 20% recycling of trash by 1994.

- 1978 - Curbside newspaper recycling provided for 80,000 homes.
- Early 1980's - The composting of over 20,000 tons of leaves each year begins.
- October 1990 - The County begins once-a-year household hazardous (HHW) collection at the Transfer Station.
- 1991 - The Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program begins with Recycling Hotline.
- August 1991 - The Materials Recovery Facility - (MRF), the Recycling Center, opens.
- 1991 - 1992 - Curbside collection of newspapers and comingled recyclables (steel and aluminum cans, glass and plastic bottles) begins.
- 1993 - The County begins a three-season, twice-a-month HHW collection at Transfer Station and other locations around the County.
- 1993 - 1994 - Multi-family and business recycling are added.
- 1994 - The MRF was rated Number 1 in country (out of 330), particularly for the efficiency of the operation, and the safety record, but also for marketing materials, engineering, public education, and integration into solid waste management.
- 1995 - The promotion of grasscycling and composting and the recycling all yard trim begins.
- 1997 - The Resource Recovery Facility, a waste-to-energy facility, opened in Dickerson.
- October 1997 - The Oaks Landfill closes.
- 1997 - The County shifts from recycling only #1 and #2 plastic bottles to all plastic bottles.
- 1999 - Curbside mixed paper collection begins.
- January 2000 - Eight months of mixed paper collection begins at 7 county locations, diverting 147,000 tons of mixed paper from waste stream. As these areas received curbside collection, the number of locations is reduced.
- March 2000 - Computer recycling begins at the Transfer Station with designated drop-off dates.

- September 2000 - Because the whole County had curbside pick-up of mixed paper and the drop-offs are suspended. The "Toter" pilot program, an experiment in paper recycling, begins.
- November 2000 - A new public drop-off area is scheduled to open at Transfer Station. The Shady Grove Transfer Station currently has drop-off facilities for building materials, scrap metal, appliances, oil, antifreeze and car batteries, tires, textiles, comingled materials, grass, leaves, brush (including Christmas trees). The newspaper, phone book and magazine drop-offs are soon to be combined to accommodate mixed paper and cardboard.

\* The County has an 80- to 90-percent participation rate in recycling. We are approaching our goal of 50-percent recycling of trash; however, we are currently at about 36.5%. The Materials Recovery Facility handles over 290 tons a day and its capacity is about 560 tons per day. Tonnage varies seasonally from a low of 250 tons a day in February to 600 tons a day in November.

# Curbside Recycling: Christmas Trees

Christmas trees will be collected on your recycling day with the rest of your blue bin recyclables from December 26 through January 31. Make sure your Christmas tree is at the curb by 7 a.m.

Christmas trees are given a new life after being composted or chipped for mulch, so keep the tree in a natural state. Please remove the stand and all decorations, including lights, ornaments, tinsel, and garland. Be sure there is no metal attached to the tree. Trees cannot be left at curb in plastic bags. "Live" Christmas trees with root balls and trees cannot be collected as part of this recycling program.

After January 31, you may still recycle your tree through our curbside yard trimming collection. Please note that the tree must then be cut smaller pieces.

Residents of apartments and condominiums should check with their property manager or representative for specific recycling instructions.

You can also recycle branches and needles at home by placing them trees and shrubs as a temporary winter mulch — or chop up and add them to your compost pile!

Collected Christmas trees are shredded, resulting in a very good quality mulch. Therefore, January and February are excellent months in which to stock up ~ for free! ~ at Neighborhood Mulch Preserves.



# Vermiculture 101

"It may be doubted whether there are many other animals which have played so important a part in the history of the world as have these lowly organized creatures."

— Charles Darwin

"Worms in the soil,  
how they toil and labor,  
such industrious neighbors  
on this planet Earth.  
And though they are lowly,  
I can tell you quite plainly,  
that each one and every,  
is a creature of worth."

-Anonymous



"I would not enter on my list of friends, (Tho' graced with polished manners and fine sense, Yet wanting sensibility) the man, Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."

-William Cowper

Aristotle described worms as "the intestines of the earth." It is now realized that a good acre of soil can contain more than a million worms that bring 18 tons of soil to the surface per acre each year. What they leave below are their nutrient rich castings and more than 1,200 miles of tunnels per acre, which provide air and water to plant roots.

There are over 3,000 recognized species of worms. Most earthworms in the United States are not natives. Our familiar nightcrawlers came from Europe in soil brought here by early settlers. Most worms are reddish-brown, though some are pink, even blue, and in England there is a worm species that is green. Most are small, only a few inches in length, though in Australia there is an endangered species of worm that can grow to 6½ feet. It is not a snake, and even this big worm could never hurt you. These worms need a lot of land, which makes life difficult for them in this modern crowded world. A baby Giant Gippsland Earthworm (*Megascolides australis*) (1) takes from 8 to 12 months to hatch from its cocoon.

Worms have no eyes but can detect light. They don't like it. Worms found dead in spring rain puddles usually die from the sunlight. They can survive under water for about an hour. Worms breathe through their skin, which must stay wet. This is one reason worms aren't found in desert areas. Worms have no ears and can't hear, but they can feel vibration. They can tell when that robin comes bobbin' along. Tiny bristles in each segment of their bodies help them hold onto the ground when a bird tries to pull them from their tunnels. Worms have no teeth, so they need decaying food to eat. This is usually no problem in nature, where decomposing organic matter is recycled into food for new plant growth.

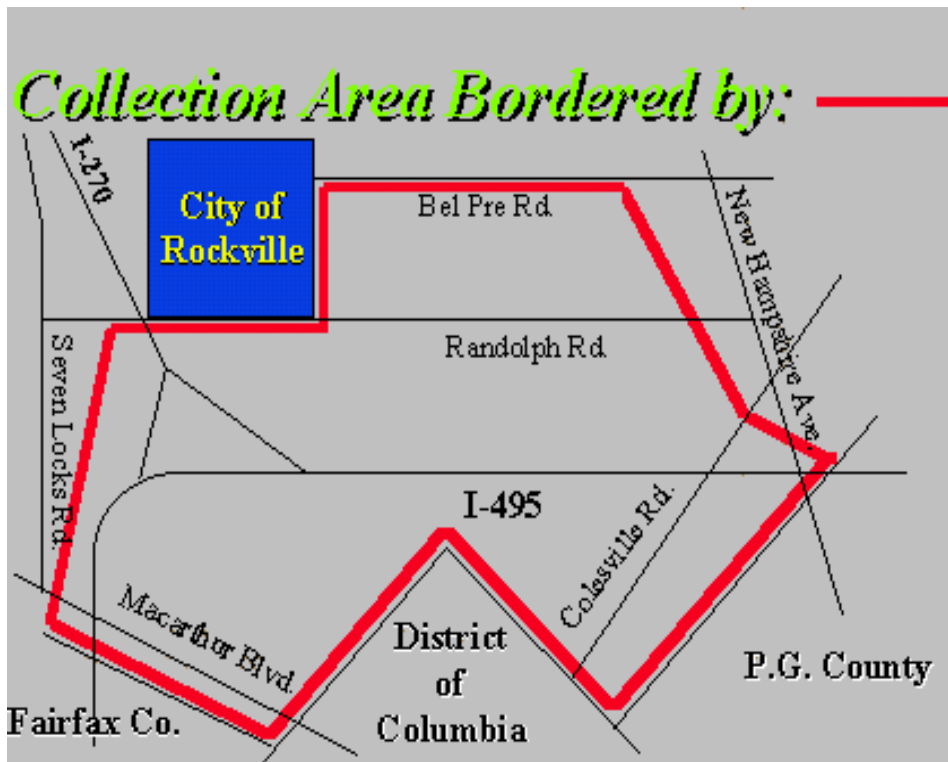
Cocoons are what the egg cases of worms are called. Worms are hermaphroditic, that is each has ovaries as well as testes. Each mature adult worm can mate and produce two to three cocoons a week. There are potentially 20 baby worms in a cocoon, but 2 or 3 hatchlings make up the usual litter. In an ideal environment, worms can double their population in a month. So with 10 worms becoming 20 in a month, then 20 becoming 40 after another month, at the end of 12 months there can be 40,000 of the little wigglers.

Baby worms look just like parent worms except they lack the swollen section near the head, which comes at 8 weeks with sexual maturity.

Want to know more about worms? Our next newsletter will contain more information. In the meanwhile, if you just can't get enough, the Master Composters can educate you. Call us at 301-840-2852, or e-mail us a [mrc@windsor.com](mailto:mrc@windsor.com). You can schedule a vermiculturist to lecture at your club event or school. Even better, you can start composting with worms and become one of our experienced speakers. But if you can wait, we'll tell you all about setting up a worm-composting bin at your home, school, or office, in the next issue of the recycler.

1. Mary Applehof, *Worms Eat My Garbage* (Kalamazoo, Mich., Flower Press, 1982).

## Leaf Vacuum Collection



The Division of Highway Services will begin the 2000 Vacuum Leaf Collection Program on November 1, 2000 (weather permitting).

As in past collections, crews will work simultaneously in 14 sub-areas distributed evenly through the area described in the above Leaf Collection District Map. Green signs will be posted throughout the work areas several days prior to the crews' arrival. We will attempt to allow a weekend for residents to rake their leaves to the edge of the road for vacuum pick-up. Signs will be removed after our crews complete each street.

The second and final fall collection will occur approximately 3 to 4 weeks after the first collection. Red signs will indicate this is the final collection. The same procedure of posting, collection, and sign removal is used for the final vacuum collection.

You can help us to achieve a successful and efficient leaf collection by:

1. Noting the information on the posted signs
2. Keeping leaves next to the curb, out of the street
3. Not placing sticks or other debris in the leaves
4. Not placing leaves in plastic bags, which we cannot collect
5. Using off street parking during collection, if possible

For information about the Vacuum Leaf Collection Program, contact the Division of Highway Services at 240-777-ROAD.

For information about the Yard Waste Collection Program, contact the Division of Solid Waste at 240-777-6410.

Residents who miss the two scheduled vacuum collections will have to place their leaves in paper yard waste bags or reusable containers, which will be picked up on the regular yard waste collection day. Leaves placed in plastic bags will not be accepted.

## Tour the MRF

A tour of the Montgomery County Recycling Center (MRF) is an eye-opening educational event available to all. Guided tours are expertly given by Jane Meleney Coe, who can tailor her presentation to any audience. Groups of 10 people or more can be scheduled for a tour. Presentations are made in a large room with floor space for about 100 people. The half-hour presentation is followed by a visit to the observation deck where the sorting process at the MRF can be seen. A mountain of co-mingled containers can be seen growing larger with every delivery from trucks which have picked up recyclables at curbside. A sizable assortment of mixed paper can be seen being loaded into the huge trucks which take it to Office Paper Systems for recycling.

Many of our tour groups are from schools, both public and private. The tours are a favorite field trip for students who then share their knowledge of recycling with their parents. Tours make a perfect accompaniment to the recycling effort now being promoted in our public schools. There is ample parking for cars and/or buses, and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

The MRF is open to the public for self-guided tours on weekdays during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.). Why not consider scheduling a tour for your civic or community association, your scout troop, church group, or any other interested party, so that you can take advantage of the experience and expertise of Jane Meleney Coe and her substitute tour guide, Tony Cammarota.

Tours can be scheduled by calling 301-417-1433, ext.12, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Tour hours are from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. throughout the year.



# Thank You, Volunteers

The MR/C Volunteer Program appreciates the many hours of assistance we receive from our volunteers. September and October activities included:

Poolesville Day, Digger rode along in a flat bed truck and waved to the crowd. **Kristie Welch** assisted with keeping Digger from falling over. **Liz Bullock** helped us at the Recyclemobile during the festival that followed. HHW collection at Shady Grove benefited from the work of **Valerie Peeler, Bob Mabie, Joe Connor, and Sally Hart Hunt**. **Sara Zavala** assisted at the Latino Festival. Volunteers for the computer collection included **Hubbard Hoyt, Susanne Cassidy, Bob Mabie, Joe Connor, Daniel Miller** and his friend **Joey Batwinis**, and **Daniel Vlacich** along with his friend **Jeff Gindis**. **Nancy Burkhart** assisted at the Germantown Octoberfest and again the following day at the Olde Towne Gaithersburg Day. HHW collection in Germantown was helped by the efforts of **Hala Bouhafa, Eugenia Isbell, and Sue Fraley**. **Jane Coe** and **Karyn Miele** contributed their time to bringing recycling collection to a school picnic at Burning Tree Elementary School. **Bernadine Dadey** made a recycling presentation to her civic association and **Carol Uhendorf** explained recycling to a civic association in Boyds.

In October at the HHW collection **Bob Mabie, Joe Connor** and **Hala Bouhafa** were joined by **Eleanor Jones, Lana Cobb, Edith Allison** and **Martha Shields** of the American Association of University Women. We attended the Burtonsville Day Festival with assistance by **Kimberly Adams, Pat** and **John Purcell**, and our new volunteer **Erin Worley**. Computer collections were held twice. Students **Jeff** and **Jason Gindes** worked very hard, as did **Steve Albright, Bob Mabie** and **Joe Connor**. The second computer collection benefited from the efforts of another new volunteer **Bill Castner**, plus **Daniel Vlacich** and **Jeff Gindes**. HHW collection at NIH ran smoothly because of the assistance by **Georgene Ammon, Janice Browne, Richard Ablard, Caroline** and **Sarah Levenson, Nicholas Eiden, Katherine Hobbs, Janine Trudeau** and **Liz**

**Bullock**. **Ralph Holtz** and **Thomas Galloway** helped move the Compost Demonstrations Site. And as always, we thank **Diane Reinke** for her editorial assistance.

Special thanks to **Randy Hill** of Maryland Environmental Service who drove Digger in the parade in Poolesville, and to **Joanna Mawyer** and **Mariela Luton** of the Division of Solid Waste Services, who communicated in Spanish at the Latino Festival. **Susanne Brunhart Wiggins** also attended many of our events and her assistance, as always, is greatly appreciated.

## Hotline

"What's happened to the Recycling Hotline?" many of you have asked. The short answer is that it's still around, just in a different format. The long answer follows:

Quick response team, new idea incubator, stalwart support. The Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program, and specifically, the Recycling Hotline, has served in all of these capacities.

In 1991, the Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) was about to add a curbside recycling program to its offerings. At the time, the Division's contracted trash collection was in turmoil, and hundreds of complaints were received daily. Now, residents would be contacting the already harried Division phone staff with additional calls about recycling. The solution was to create a Recycling Hotline, staffed by knowledgeable and enthusiastic volunteers.

A joint project between DSWS, the Cooperative Extension Service, and the County's Department of Family Services, the new Hotline was housed at the Extension Service. Volunteers came in for three hours every weekday to answer the phones. They expertly and patiently took questions about everything from proper set-out procedures for yard trim to recycling x-ray film, and scheduled tours for the nearly 10,000 annual visitors to the Recycling Center.

Five years later, the Hotline's answering machine was set up to receive messages. Changing times meant using available technology to broaden opportunities through which callers could reach us. Sure enough, messages were left at all times of the day. These were then returned during business hours. "Live" callers continued to enjoy the immediate assistance of Hotline volunteers.

Now, technology has encouraged us

again to enhance the efficiency with which residents' questions and concerns are addressed. Whereas looking up a resident's collection day was once an exercise in flipping through an enormous binder, the DSWS Customer Service staff now has "Oscar" at their fingertips. Oscar enables immediate address lookup, logging of service complaints, entering of blue bin orders, and scheduling of scrap metal recycling pickups. Thus, the Hotline referred calls pertaining to these categories to the DSWS calltakers, meaning that residents were asked to place a separate call to that phone number.

Earlier this year, the categories of Hotline calls were studied more closely. The finding was that over 97% of the calls received were routine questions such as when the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection would take place, or were ones that needed processing via Oscar and the calltakers.

Thus, the decision to automatically forward Hotline calls to the DSWS Customer Service line was made. Routine questions are handled there. More detailed inquiries about recycling and composting — the responses to which have been a strong point of the MR/C Volunteer Program — are referred back to the MR/C office.

During the nine years that the Hotline operated in its original format, volunteers logged 10,841 hours and over 11,100 calls. What a job well done! The volunteers' friendly and expert service allowed "breathing room" for the Customer Service Line to mature into its current computer-assisted form. Collection on the streets has improved phenomenally as well. There are some days on which almost no complaints are received.

The new frontier for the Division is now electronic communication. Our website is well utilized, but residents and Internet visitors will have questions left unanswered by what they read. Thus, the Hotline has the opportunity to return to its starting point: that of "incubating" new service ideas, expanding DSWS staff services and bringing to the position special knowledge, enthusiasm, and commitment to the cause. A perk this time around is the ability to respond to inquiries from the comfort of home, and at any time of day.

Interested in taking your expertise online? Contact Volunteer Program Manager Jim Welch at [mrc@windsor.com](mailto:mrc@windsor.com). Or, call him at 301-840-2852.

# Recycling References

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood 301-840-2370  
(Route 355 & Shady Grove Rd.)

### PUBLIC UNLOADING FACILITY

Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.;  
Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Truck Hours, Monday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m - 5:00 p.m.

(Use Shady Grove Truck Entrance if you are dropping off materials in a truck.)

*Accepts mixed glass bottles and jars, cans, and all plastic bottles with necks, newspapers, antifreeze, waste oil, auto batteries, tires, magazines, catalogs and yard trim.*

### DON'T DUMP, DONATE!

Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
(Use Shady Grove Truck Entrance.)

*Accepts unused or used building materials in usable condition, such as: lumber, cinderblocks, wood, lights, flooring, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, toilets, tubs, doors - everything, including the kitchen sink.*

### CLOTHING & TEXTILE RECYCLING

At Public Unloading Facility

*Accepts clothes, drapes, shoes, towels, sheets, belts, handbags, and material larger than 15" x 15" in area. Clothing & textiles must be clean, dry and in plastic bags.*

### MATRESSCYCLE

At Public Unloading Facility

*Accepts mattresses and box springs.*

The Salvation Army also recycles mattresses at the following locations every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

LITTLE FALLS MALL, Sangamore Rd. and Sentinel Dr., Bethesda

GERMANTOWN COMMONS PLAZA, Middlebrook Rd. off of

Route 118, Germantown

CABIN JOHN MALL, Tuckerman Ln. and Seven Locks Rd., Bethesda

### LARGE APPLIANCE RECYCLING

Monday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Use Shady Grove Truck Entrance);  
Monday - Friday, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. (Use public entrance off Route 355); Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Use public entrance off Route 355)

*Accepts refrigerators, freezers, hot water heaters, window air conditioning units and dehumidifiers.*

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

All sites operate from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5	Shady Grove Transfer Station
Sunday, November 18	Briggs Chaney Park & Ride Lot
Sunday, December 3	Shady Grove Transfer Station

*Accepts insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers, paint thinners and solvents, pool chemicals, fuels, oil, photographic chemicals, oil-based paints, button and rechargeable batteries, fluorescent bulbs (limit of 12 bulbs).*

There will not be any collections for the months of January and February. Collections will resume in March 2001.

### FURNITURE

The Housing Opportunities Commission will pick up any reusable furniture item in good condition, such as tables, chairs, sofas, beds, mattresses, and box springs. To arrange for pick up, please call 301-495-0983.

## SPECIAL DROP-OFFS

### ROCKVILLE AREA

Montgomery Scrap Corporation 301-424-3000  
15000 Southlawn Lane

*Buys back aluminum cans scrap metal, other metals, and accepts appliances.*

Georgetown Paper Stock of Rockville 301-762-6990

14818 Southlawn Lane

Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*Buys back white office paper and computer paper in 100 lb. loads (no news-paper) and accepts corrugated cardboard.*

### SILVER SPRING AREA

Southeast Recycling Corp. 301-589-4002  
9001 Brookville Road

*Accepts newspapers, magazines and catalogs, telephone books, corrugated cardboard and cereal boxes.*

Yeshiva of Greater Washington 301-649-7053

1216 Arcola Ave.

Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Accepts aluminum cans.*

Takoma Park-Silver Spring Food Co-op 301-891-2667

201 Ethan Allen Avenue

*Accepts aseptic packaging, all types of plastic containers, and mixed paper.*

### GAITHERSBURG AREA

The City of Gaithersburg provides mixed paper and corrugated cardboard recycling for its residents. Call the Public Works Department at 301-258-6370 for more information.

Office Paper Systems 301-948-6301

7650 Airpark Road

Drop-off bin available 24 hours.

*Accepts all types of paper ("any thing that tears").*

### WHITE OAK AREA

White Oak Boy Scout Troop 1086 301-622-1273

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 11612 New Hampshire Avenue

Fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. *Accepts newspaper.*

### COLLEGE PARK AREA

University of Maryland Recycling Center 301-314-8345

Lot 4A on Paint Branch Drive (near the intersection of Metzert Rd.

and University Blvd.)

*Accepts white, colored, office and computer paper, corrugated and glossy cardboard, magazines, glass, aluminum cans, newspaper, clothing, telephone books, scrap metal, and textbooks.*

### DAMASCUS AREA

St. Paul's Catholic Church 301-253-2027

9240 Damascus Road, Open 24 hours

*Accepts newspaper in bin behind church.*

### POOLESVILLE AREA

Highway Services Depot, Jerusalem Road 240-777-7623

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*Accepts used motor oil and antifreeze (up to 5 gallons of each).*

**Master Recycler/Composter Volunteer Program**  
**16101 Frederick Road**  
**Derwood, Maryland 20855**

Bulk rate  
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Permit No. 138

**MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY  
RECYCLES**



Return Service Requested

## ***Calendar of Events***

For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the MR/C Volunteer Program at 301-840-2852, or MRC@windsor.com. Visit [www.MCRecycle.org/volunteer](http://www.MCRecycle.org/volunteer) for the most current calendar.

### **FAIRS and FESTIVALS**

**Sunday, November 19th. America Recycles Day** - Details on page 1.

**Saturday, December 2nd. Silver Spring Holiday Parade** - Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

### **TOURS SCHEDULED - OFFICE PAPER SYSTEMS**

Two tours of the new Office Paper Systems facility are scheduled for November 2000. The first date is **Saturday, November 25th** - a rare opportunity to see the plant working on a weekend day. The second date is the following **Wednesday, November 29th**.

Both tours will start at 10:00 a.m., and volunteers should meet at the Recycling Center at 9:30 a.m. so we can carpool. Please sign up as soon as possible. Feel free to bring friends and family members.

### **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS**

This activity is approved for Student Service Learning. Collection volunteers direct traffic and hand out literature. Two shifts: 9:30 a.m. to Noon and 11:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Each site operates from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. See dates on page 7. This is a wonderful group activity. Please help us spread the word.

### **COMPUTER COLLECTIONS**

**Sundays, November 12th. and December 10th.** This activity is approved for Student Service Learning. Collection volunteers direct traffic and assist with collection. Event starts at 9:00 a.m. and stops at 4:00 p.m. All items are collected at the Shady Grove Transfer Station. Cars will enter from Shady Grove Road.